

Introducing the DS-160 U.S. Visa Application Form



U.S. Embassy Asmara, Eritrea

April 27, 2010

Background

- New online DS-160 nonimmigrant visa (NIV) application form
- Replaces the following forms:
 - DS-156 “Nonimmigrant Visa Application”
 - DS-157 “Supplemental Nonimmigrant Visa Application”
 - DS-158 “Contact Information and Work History for Nonimmigrant Visa Applicant”
- Mandatory as of June 1, 2010
 - Optional from May 1 through May 31, 2010

Advantages to Applicants

- One form instead of three
- Completely online – nothing to fill out by hand
- Family and group feature – no need to fill in identical data more than once
- Save feature – don't need to complete all at once
- Frequent applicants can save application for reuse
- Print only a single confirmation page

Application Process

Make Appointment

- In person
- By phone
- By e-mail

Complete Form

- Online at <https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/>

Come in to Embassy

- Pay Fee
- Fingerprint
- Interview

Pick Up Visa

- Day After Interview (usually)

Only the application form has changed – Other parts of the process remain the same

Completing the DS-160

Step 1 – Accessing the Application

- Go to <https://ceac.state.gov/genniv>
- Read the instructions and press “Start Application”

U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE
CONSULAR ELECTRONIC APPLICATION CENTER

Select Tooltip Language: English

Nonimmigrant Visa Application

Instructions

Welcome to the Consular Electronic Application Center Instructions page. This online Nonimmigrant Visa Application can be completed in order to assist you in expediting the visa application process.

What you need:

- Your Internet browser must support 128-bit encryption and must have javascript enabled.
- The minimum version of Internet Explorer (Windows) that this site supports is version 5.0 service pack 2 or higher.
- The minimum version of Netscape that this site supports is version 6.2 or higher.

Note: The time to download each page may vary depending on the speed of your Internet connection. Please be patient.

Instructions for completing the online Nonimmigrant Visa Application:

1. Enter the information requested into the appropriate spaces in each window. Please answer all questions. Your answers must be in English and must use English characters, except when you are asked to provide your full name in your native alphabet. Letters like ñ, ð, ù, ç are not recognized by the system. Please enter names like Muñoz and Sémonin as Munoz and Semonin, unless otherwise asked.
2. Review the information you entered for accuracy.
3. Print the confirmation page.
4. Bring the confirmation page with you at all steps during the visa application process.

Notice 22 C.F.R. 6.41-103 requires an applicant to sign and submit his or her own Nonimmigrant Visa Application unless otherwise exempt. Although the applicant may receive assistance from a third party in preparing the application, the applicant is required to click the "Sign Application" button at the end of the application. The applicant's failure to sign the application may result in a termination of the application.

Start Application

This site is managed by the Bureau of Consular Affairs, U.S. Department of State. External links to other Internet

Completing the DS-160

Step 2 – Choose the Embassy

- Choose the Embassy or Consulate where you will apply

U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE
CONSULAR ELECTRONIC APPLICATION CENTER

Contact Us | Help

Select Tooltip Language: Cnrogorski

COMPLETE REVIEW SIGN

Nonimmigrant Visa Application

Getting Started

Personal

Address and Phone

Passport

Travel

Travel Companions

Previous U.S. Travel

U.S. Contact

Family

Work / Education / Training

Security and Background

E-Visa

Student/Exchange Visa

Crew Visa

Temporary Work Visa

V-Visa

Help: Navigation Buttons

Click on the buttons above to access previously entered data.

minutes or more in the process of completing this expire and all entered data will be lost.

Center will permit you to complete an application. Saved applications will be stored online. If you need to stop completing for any reason, click the 'Save' button to save the application. If you return to the Consular Electronic Application Center, click the 'Continue' button to upload the previously saved data.

As part of the electronic submission of your application, you will be asked to provide an electronic copy of a photo of the applicant. The photo must meet requirements for photo submission. If you wish to test your photo prior to beginning the application, you may use the test photo button below.

Click the button below to test your photo:

Test Photo

Click here to review the photo standards guide

Completing the DS-160

Step 3 – Fill In The Form

- Complete all questions carefully and accurately
- Inserting wrong information or leaving required items blank will only delay your application

The screenshot displays the DS-160 form with the following sections and data:

Personal Information 1

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 1405-0182
FORM NUMBER: DS-160
EXPIRATION DATE: 07/31/2011
ESTIMATED BURDEN: 75 MIN

NOTE: Data on this page must match the information as it is written in your passport.

Personal Information

Surnames: FERNANDRZ GARCIA (e.g., FERNANDEZ GARCIA)
Given Names: JUAN MIGUEL (e.g., JUAN MIGUEL)
Full Name in Native Alphabet: [Blank]

Passport Information

Passport Number: A1234567

Previous U.S. Travel Information

NOTE: Provide the following previous U.S. travel information. Provide complete and accurate information to all questions that require an explanation.

Q: Have you ever been in the U.S.?

A: Yes No

Provide information on your last five U.S. visits:

Date of Arrival: 01 SEP 1996 (Format: DD-MMM-YYYY)
Length of Stay: 3 YEAR(S)

Q: Do you or did you ever hold a U.S. Driver's License?

A: Yes No

Q: Have you ever been issued a U.S. Visa?

A: Yes No

Previous U.S. Visas

Date Last Visa Was Issued: 12 AUG 1996 (Format: DD-MMM-YYYY)
Visa Number: [Blank]

Help: Passport Number

Enter the information on the travel document you will be using when traveling to the U.S. Your travel document should be a valid, unexpired passport or other valid, unexpired documentation that is sufficient to establish your identity and nationality.

Help: Passport Book Number

The Passport Book Number is commonly called the inventory control number. You may or may not have a Passport Book Number on your passport. The location of the Passport Book Number on your passport may vary depending on the country that issued your passport. Please contact your passport issuing authority if you are unable to determine whether or not your passport contains a Passport Book Number.

Help: Expiration Date

In most cases your passport must have at least six months of validity beyond the date of your visa application and/or your arrival in the United States.

Completing the DS-160

Saving an Application

- If you can't finish in one sitting, you can save the application to your hard drive and continue later
- Press “Save” at the bottom of any data entry page
- Press “Save Application to File”
- Press “Save” and navigate to the place you want to save your application

The screenshot displays the CEAC interface. At the top, a navigation bar includes links for 'Back: Getting Started', 'Save', and 'Next: Personal 2'. Below this, a sidebar on the left lists application sections: 'Getting Started', 'Personal', 'Personal 1', 'Personal 2', 'Address and Photo', 'Passport', 'Travel', 'Travel Companions', 'Previous U.S. Travel', 'U.S. Contact', 'Family', 'Work/Education/Training', and 'Background'. The main content area shows the 'Save Confirmation' page, which states: 'You have saved your application for your current session. Once you close the CEAC application browser window, you will not be able to retrieve the saved data.' It provides instructions on how to save the application to a file and offers three options: 'Save Application to File', 'Continue Application', and 'Exit Application'. A 'File Download' dialog box is overlaid on the page, asking 'Do you want to open or save this file?' with details: Name: CEACAA0000FCJ.dat, Type: HTML Document, 21.9 KB, From: ceac.state.gov. The dialog has 'Open', 'Save', and 'Cancel' buttons. A blue arrow points from the 'Save' button in the navigation bar to the 'Save Application to File' button in the 'Save Confirmation' page. Another blue arrow points from the 'Save Application to File' button to the 'Save' button in the 'File Download' dialog box.

Completing the DS-160

Retrieving a Saved Application

- Browse to a saved application file
- Press “Upload Data”

U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE
CONSULAR ELECTRONIC APPLICATION CENTER

COMPLETE REVIEW SIGN

Nonimmigrant Visa Application

Upload a Previous Application

Click 'Browse' and select the previously saved application file you wish to upload. Next, answer the security questions to validate that the correct file has been selected, then click 'Upload Data'. Finally, click on the 'Next' button at the bottom of each page until the last completed page has been reached and continue the application process.

Previously Saved Application File

File Path:
H:\CEACAA0000KDQF.DAT [Browse...](#)

Security Questions

First 5 Letters of Surname: Year of Birth:

[Upload Data](#) [Cancel](#)

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Completing the DS-160

Tips

- If a question doesn't apply to you, you must check the "Does Not Apply" box
- Answer fully and include as much detail as you can
- Be especially careful with the yes/no questions near the end – misrepresenting the facts can make you ineligible to receive a visa ever

(e.g., JUAN MIGUEL)

Full Name in Native Alphabet

☒ Does Not Apply

utions

A: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Phone

Home Phone Number
03-555-5555

Work Phone Number
03-444-4444 ☐ Does Not Apply

Work Fax Number
☒ Does Not Apply

Mobile/Cell Phone Number
012-555-5555

Monthly Salary in Local Currency (if employed)
 ☐ Does Not Apply

Briefly describe your duties:

Security and Background: Security Information

NOTE: Provide the following security and background information. Provide complete and accurate information to all questions that require an explanation. A visa may not be issued to persons who are within specific categories defined by law as inadmissible to the United States (except when a waiver is obtained in advance). Are any of the following applicable to you? While a YES answer does not automatically signify ineligibility for a visa, if you answer YES you may be required to personally appear before a consular officer.

Q: Do you seek to engage in espionage, sabotage, export control violations, or any other illegal activity while in the United States?
A: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Q: Do you seek to engage in terrorist activities while in the United States or have you ever engaged in terrorist activities?
A: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Q: Have you ever or do you intend to provide financial assistance or other support to terrorists or terrorist

Getting Started
Personal
Address and Phone
Passport
Travel
Travel Companions
Previous U.S. Travel
U.S. Contact
Family
Work / Education / Training
Security and Background
Medical and Health
Criminal
Security

Completing the DS-160

Step 4 – Reviewing Your Application

- You have an opportunity to review and edit all your answers before submitting your application
- Check carefully that everything is correct – it's impossible to make changes later

The screenshot shows the CEAC interface for a Nonimmigrant Visa Application. The top navigation bar includes links for 'Contact Us' and 'Help', and a language dropdown set to 'English'. The main header displays the U.S. Department of State logo and the text 'U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE CONSULAR ELECTRONIC APPLICATION CENTER'. Below this is a red navigation bar with tabs for 'COMPLETE', 'PHOTO', 'REVIEW', and 'SIGN'. The 'REVIEW' tab is currently selected.

The left sidebar contains a list of application sections: 'Personal/Address/Phone/Passport' (checked), 'Travel', 'U.S. Contact', 'Family', 'Work/Education/Training', 'Security and Background', and 'Location'. The 'Travel' section is highlighted.

The main content area is titled 'Nonimmigrant Visa Application' and 'Travel Information'. It contains the following fields:

- Principal Applicant?** YES (with an 'Edit Travel Information' link)
- Purpose of Your Trip to U.S.** (checkbox checked)
- Specific Travel Plan?** YES (checkbox checked)
- The Location you plan to visit in the U.S.** (checkbox checked)
- Address where you will stay in the U.S.:** 222 MAIN STREET, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA
- Person/Entity Paying for Your Trip:** SELF
- Other Persons Traveling with You:** YES (with an 'Edit Travel Companions Information' link)
- Have you ever been in the U.S.?** YES (checkbox checked, with an 'Edit Previous U.S. Travel Information' link)
- Do you or did you hold a U.S. Driver's License?** NO
- Have you ever been issued a U.S. Visa?** YES (checkbox checked)
- Have you ever been refused a U.S. Visa, been refused admission to the United States, or withdrawn your application for admission at the point of entry?** NO

At the bottom, there are three buttons: 'Back: Personal/Address', 'Save', and 'Next: U.S. Contact'.

Completing the DS-160

Step 5 – Submitting Your Application

- Once you submit your application, you can't change it
- Pressing “Sign and Submit Application” constitutes your electronic signature, certifying that all the answers on the application are true

The screenshot shows the 'Sign and Submit' page of the U.S. Department of State Consular Electronic Application Center (CEAC). The page is titled 'Nonimmigrant Visa Application' and 'Sign and Submit'. It includes a navigation bar with 'COMPLETE', 'PHOTO', 'REVIEW', and 'SIGN' tabs. The 'SIGN' tab is active. The page contains the following elements:

- U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE** and **CONSULAR ELECTRONIC APPLICATION CENTER** header.
- Nonimmigrant Visa Application** title.
- Sign and Submit** section header.
- Instructions: "Read the following information carefully before dating, electronically signing and submitting the application."
- Disclaimer: "Your application is now ready to be submitted. Please note that this does not necessarily mean that your application for a nonimmigrant visa is complete, as additional information may be needed after Department of State personnel have reviewed the application."
- Warning: "By clicking 'Sign and Submit Application' you are certifying that all the answers on the application are true and correct. You are required to electronically sign the application by regulation, even if you are assisted by someone else."
- Question: "Did anyone assist you in filling out this application?" with radio buttons for "Yes" and "No".
- E-Signature** section with a certification statement: "I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct."
- Input fields for "Enter your passport number:" and "Enter the code as shown:".
- A CAPTCHA image showing the code **9FZX8**.
- A red instruction: "Click the button below to electronically sign your application:".
- A blue button labeled "Sign and Submit Application".
- Footer navigation: "Back: REVIEW", "Save", and "Next: Confirmation".

Completing the DS-160

Step 6 – Printing Your Confirmation Page

- Print the confirmation page
- You only need to bring the printed confirmation sheet to the interview
- You can print the entire application for your own records if you wish
- You can e-mail the confirmation to someone else (e.g., if you are completing the application for another person)

 U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE
CONSULAR ELECTRONIC APPLICATION CENTER

Nonimmigrant Visa Application

Confirmation

YOU MUST PRINT this confirmation page. The barcode **MUST** be clear and legible on the printed page. You may also print the entire application for your records. If you do not have access to a printer at this time, select the option to email your confirmation page to an email address.

YOU MUST SUBMIT this confirmation page and the following document(s) to the Consular post indicated below: Passport. You may also submit any additional documents you feel will support your case. **DO NOT** send the entire application.

If you have further questions, please go to <http://travel.state.gov>.

This confirms the submission of the Nonimmigrant visa application for:

	Name Provided: TEST, TEST
	Nationality: BRAZIL
	Passport Number: TEST
	Completed On: 20 February 2008
	Confirmation No: AA000000J1

Location Selected:
US EMBASSY - SEOUL
333 TEST DR
SEOUL, S. KOREA



A A 0 0 0 0 0 0 J 1

[Print Confirmation](#) [Print Application](#) [Email Confirmation](#)

THIS IS NOT A VISA Version 01.00.00

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Completing the DS-160

Step 6 – Printing Your Confirmation Letter (cont)

- This is what the confirmation page looks like if your photo was not uploaded
- You will need to bring a photo with you to the interview

U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE
CONSULAR ELECTRONIC APPLICATION CENTER

Nonimmigrant Visa Application

Language:

Confirmation

NOTE: The photo you have submitted with your visa application did not meet the quality standards specified in the instructions on photo submission for visa applicants. Please have new photos taken, specifically following the photo guideline instructions on <http://travel.state.gov>.

YOU MUST BRING this confirmation page and the following document(s) with you at all steps during the application process:

Passport.

YOU MUST BRING this confirmation page and submit it with the NEW photo and your passport to your Embassy, Consulate, or International Organization to complete the application process. The barcode **MUST** be clear and legible on the printed page. You may also print the entire application for your records. If you do not have access to a printer at this time, select the option to email your confirmation page to an email address.

Please contact your Consular Post directly for information on how to continue the application process. Please note that you will need to provide proof that you have paid the visa application fee. You may also provide any additional documents you feel will support your case. **DO NOT** submit the entire application.

Some posts have special procedures for applicants who may not need a visa interview; you may find information about that process on the Consular Post's website.

If you have further questions or to find out how to contact the Consular Post please go to <http://usembassy.state.gov/> or <http://travel.state.gov>.

This confirms the submission of the Nonimmigrant visa application for:

	Name Provided:	TEST, TEST
	Nationality:	BRAZIL
	Passport Number:	TEST
	Completed On:	3 June 2008
	Confirmation No:	AA000004E8

Location Selected:
US EMBASSY - LONDON
666 TEST DR
LONDON, UK

A A 0 0 0 0 4 E 8

[Print Confirmation](#) [Print Application](#) [Email Confirmation](#)

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Reminder

The DS-160 replaces only the application forms. Other items are still required

- Students: I-20
- Exchange Visitors: DS-2019
- Diplomats and Officials: Diplomatic Note

And most applicants still need evidence of ties to their place of residence



Contacts

Consular Section:

Website: <http://eritrea.usembassy.gov/index.html>
E-Mail: ConsularAsmara@state.gov
Phone: 291 .1 .120.004
Fax: 291 .1. 124.255